

MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes of August 21, 2013  
Lansing Community College West Campus  
5708 Cornerstone, Lansing  
9:00 AM

The meeting of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Board of Trustees commenced at 9:00 AM.

The following Board members were present:

Brad Canale  
Keith Charters  
Keith Creagh  
Sam Cummings  
Erin McDonough

Also in attendance were various staff members of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and other interested parties.

I. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF JUNE 19, 2013.

Chairperson Cummings called for the adoption of the minutes for the June 19, 2013 MNRTF Board meeting.

**MOVED BY MR. CHARTERS, SUPPORTED BY MR. CANALE, TO APPROVE  
THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 19, 2013 BOARD MEETING. PASSED WITHOUT  
DISSENTING VOTE.**

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA FOR MEETING OF AUGUST 21, 2013.

Chairperson Cummings called for the adoption of the agenda for the August 21, 2013 MNRTF Board meeting.

**MOVED BY MR. CANALE, SUPPORTED BY DIRECTOR CREAGH, TO ADOPT  
THE AGENDA FOR THE AUGUST 21, 2013 MNRTF BOARD MEETING.  
PASSED WITHOUT DISSENTING VOTE.**

### III. INTRODUCTIONS.

Chairperson Cummings introduced Ms. Erin McDonough to the audience. Ms. McDonough was appointed by the Governor to complete the balance of Mr. Bob Garner's term on the MNRTF Board (expiring October 1, 2013). Mr. Garner recently resigned from the Board.

At this point the Board members and DNR staff introduced themselves to the audience. Mr. Joe Frick, Assistant Division Chief, Finance and Operations Division, DNR, mentioned that Mr. Steve DeBrabander, Manager, Grants Management Section, was not in attendance today as he was attending legislative meetings in the Upper Peninsula advocating the MNRTF program.

### IV. PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

#### MNRTF Investment Strategy – Chairperson Sam Cummings

Chairperson Cummings stated that since April of 2012, the MNRTF Board has been discussing an investment strategy for the MNRTF Program. He thanked staff that has assisted in developing the investment strategy, as well as Mr. Charters and Mr. Canale.

The MNRTF cap has been met (at \$500 million). As a result of this fact, the MNRTF in the future will be run more like a foundation. The earnings come from the corpus. The Board wanted to ensure the long-term stability of the resources, as well as making sure the program is around in perpetuity. This is more like a permanent endowment. The corpus has been well managed by the Department of Treasury, but we need to focus on the safety of the corpus and program stability.

Beginning with this fiscal year (Fiscal Year 2013; beginning October 1, 2012), the amount of investment income made available will be reduced to 2.5 percent. In order for the MNRTF to grow its earnings, it cannot spend all it earns. It is anticipated that the MNRTF will have a 5 percent return and the other half of this will be designated to a permanent investment growth reserve.

In the proposed Board resolution, there would be the opportunity to use funds from the Stabilization Reserve for the next three fiscal years while the Board adjusts to the reduced percentage in amounts available for funding. There is a cap on this of not more than 10 percent of corpus and earnings.

The Board goes on record to support the Department of Treasury's asset allocation of the MNRTF corpus and indicating that the MNRTF Board will review this with Treasury annually.

Mr. Frick added that he also supported these recommendations and it is a good time to be conservative. He also mentioned that there will be additional money coming in from lapsed and/or withdrawn projects.

Mr. Charters stated that it appears the 2.5 percent equates to about \$12.5 million available to spend (2.5 percent of the \$500 million corpus). He asked what the amount was in the Stabilization Reserve. Chairperson Cummings responded that it is \$59 million. Mr. Charters said with a 10 percent maximum spending in the Stabilization Reserve, \$5.9 million could be spent. Mr. Frick responded that the spending will be based on 2.5 percent of the total investment amount.

At this point, Mr. Frick outlined the MNRTF Financial Report, and projections for the funding cycle in 2013, if the Board resolution is passed. There would be a total of \$18,155,377 available for acquisition and development projects -- \$13,856,470 acquisition and \$4,298,906 for development.

The Stabilization Reserve total amount will not be known until the end of this fiscal year. Lapses have been put in the reserve in the past. The Board could use more funds from the Stabilization Reserve if they have a high priority project they wish to fund.

Mr. Frick further stated that staff will review this process every year for any adjustments.

Mr. Charters inquired after this resolution is passed, will there be any question of constitutionality or do we need an Attorney General's opinion. Director Creagh responded he does not feel there needs to be an Attorney General's opinion, as Attorney General Schuette has already ruled on the MNRTF's protection in the constitution. Mr. Frick added that the interest is also restricted by the State Constitution. MNRTF funds cannot be transferred for other uses without a constitutional amendment.

**MOVED BY MR. CANALE, SUPPORTED BY MR. CHARTERS, TO ADOPT THE MNRTF BOARD RESOLUTION. THE ADOPTED RESOLUTION READS AS FOLLOWS:**

**Allocations:** Effective beginning with Fiscal Year 2013 revenues (i.e., beginning October 1, 2012), the amount of investment income made available for spending will be targeted at 2.5% of the beginning investable fund balance (i.e., \$500 million corpus plus investment reserves).

**Long-Term Growth:** Effective retroactively to the beginning of Fiscal Year 2012, a Permanent Investment Growth Reserve ("Growth Reserve") will be established from balances currently in the Revenue Stabilization Reserve (Stabilization Reserve). The annual deposit to the Growth Reserve shall be targeted at 2.5% of the beginning permanent investment reserves (i.e., \$500 million corpus plus the accumulated balance in the Growth Reserve).

**Stabilization:** A minimum target balance for the Stabilization Reserve will be established at the amount required for growth and allocation in the subsequent fiscal year.

**Transition:** The Board may designate the use of any excess balance in the Stabilization Reserve above the minimum target for the next three years (i.e., Fiscal Years 2013, 2014, and 2015) but not beyond a total of 10% of the total of corpus plus Growth Reserve.

**Investment Asset Allocation:** The Board supports and endorses the State Treasurer's Investment Strategy Outline document as a near-term strategy with an expectation that greater risk will be acceptable as the Growth Reserve increases. Asset allocation recommendations will be reviewed at least annually with the Department of Treasury.

**PASSED WITHOUT DISSENTING VOTE.**

Mr. Tom Bailey, Executive Director, Little Traverse Conservancy

Mr. Tom Bailey, Executive Director of Little Traverse Conservancy, welcomed Ms. McDonough to the MNRTF Board.

Mr. Tim McLean, Assistant to Village Manager, and Mr. Bob Snow, President, Village of Jonesville – 13-037, Jonesville Rail Trail Construction

Mr. Tim McLean, Assistant to the Village Manager; and Mr. Bob Snow, President of the Village of Jonesville, made a PowerPoint presentation in support of the Jonesville Rail Trail Construction project (13-037).

Mr. Snow stated that the Village of Jonesville sits on the south trail, which is between Detroit and Chicago. The village is also situated along the St. Joseph River. There is a full municipal staff in the village and two parks, as well as an industrial park.

Mr. McLean continued by stating that last year the village was able to acquire an abandoned railroad property. The village is now seeking funds to develop a rail trail. The cost of the project would be \$400,000 (MNRTF grant request \$296,000), with the village putting in a 26 percent match (including \$14,000 in force account labor). The trail would be about 1-1/2 miles in length, including a 10-foot path and be for non-motorized use. The trail would include interpretive signage, benches, and trash receptacles. The phase two portion of the trail will eventually allow regional connectivity to the North Country Trail.

There is much support for the project from the community and organizations.

The project will provide the first public access to the river. In addition, it will provide regional and national benefits. The project also implements some joint planning efforts with Fayette Township; a joint master plan was completed in 2010. There is a 10-mile path on the south end of Hillsdale (following M-99) that is part of a joint plan for the trail.

Mr. Rob Sarro, County Administrator; and Mr. Mark DeYoung, Park Commission, Allegan County – 13-042, West Side Park Improvements

Mr. Mark DeYoung, with the Park Commission for Allegan County, made a PowerPoint presentation in support of the West Side Park Improvements project (13-042). West Side Park consists of 11 acres with 630 feet of sandy beach on Lake Michigan. Two dune stairways provide access to the beach.

Mr. Rob Sarro continued by stating the project is not just a project for Allegan County, but rather for the entire state. West Side Park currently has a ball diamond, picnic tables, two covered pavilions, two modern restroom buildings and a fenced playground.

The project would provide a barrier-free beach access, new stairs to the beach, accessible viewing deck, 33-space parking area near beach bluff, replacement of existing walkways, new walkways connected to existing walking paths, improvements to viewing area along the top of bluff, retaining wall, railing, fencing and location for benches; screen fence and landscaping along the south property line. The master planning process is to keep the existing picnic shelters in place, but make them safer and more usable. In addition, the project would include slab replacement and adding new grill areas with serving table and with handicap accessibility.

The total project cost would be \$400,000, with \$300,000 being requested under the MNRTF program.

The county worked with Disability Network/Lakeshore to receive input and support for the project as to ADA accessibility. There is a need for better access to the beach for disabled users. Improvements to the new parking area, access paths, ADA access ramp and seasonal access to the beach will greatly improve handicap access to the sites.

Mr. Sarro expressed from 1991 to 2000, the county has completed many successful park projects with the assistance of MNRTF funding.

Ms. McDonough asked if there was any connectivity between the parks listed and the city parks, such as connecting trails. Mr. DeYoung responded that there are plans in the process for a bike trail from South Haven to Saugatuck, but it is still in the planning stages.

Chairperson Cummings asked what the next access was south and north to Lake Michigan from West Side Park. Mr. DeYoung responded that north would be Douglas and to the south would be Casco Township. There is the appearance that there is a lot of access along Lake Michigan, but a lot of the shoreline is privately-owned property.

Mr. Charters wondered how citizens would be made aware of West Side Park. Mr. DeYoung responded through the county's website.

Ms. Kristin Wiltfang, Senior Planner, Economic Development and Community Affairs, Oakland County – 13-065, Clinton River Trail Acquisition-Pontiac; 13-068, Clinton River Improvements-Auburn Hills; 13-067, Clinton River Improvements-Rochester; and 13-066, Clinton River Trail Improvements-Rochester Hills

Ms. Kristin Wiltfang, Senior Planner, Economic Development and Community Affairs, Oakland County, made a PowerPoint presentation in support of the Clinton River Trail Acquisition project for the City of Pontiac (13-065); and the Clinton River Improvements projects for the City of Auburn Hills (13-068), City of Rochester (13-067) and City of Rochester Hills (13-066).

For the City of Pontiac's acquisition project (13-068), this is actually the former railroad corridor that the Clinton River Trail follows. There is a big gap in the trail system in this area. She pointed out the trail route via PowerPoint. The railroad corridor was abandoned in 1998, and in 2002 the City of Pontiac purchased two sections of corridor and completed the downtown spur.

The acquisition would be for 85.4 acres (4.5 miles) of abandoned rail corridor on the North Spur of the trail. This portion will have five bridges and goes past the Silver Dome and over on M-59. The steps involved for the Pontiac acquisition would be to: 1) purchase the north spur; 2) develop the north spur and east-west downtown connector; and 3) install "look and feel" signage.

At this point, Ms. Wiltfang outlined development applications submitted by the City of Auburn Hills, City of Rochester and City of Rochester Hills for the Clinton River Trail. These portions of the trail would include the "look and feel" signage. She pointed out aspects of the trail via PowerPoint.

The "look and feel" project was started by a "Friends of" group who looked at the number of signs on the trail, type of signs, safety on the trail, sign locations, community identification and trail etiquette. The project started back in 2008 at a meeting with the Michigan Trails and Greenway Alliance. There were several other meetings with organizations and stakeholders to envision improvements to the trail. A survey on most desirable trail amenities was conducted and a final report was prepared December, 2010. There was much support for the trail development from the local communities.

Natural connections on the trail were also reviewed for regional transportation, connection to the Clinton River, downtown areas, annual events and natural resources.

Ms. Wiltfang outlined the design and material texture that would be used for the signage and shade shelters. Development also would include accessible picnic tables. Benches and trash receptacles will also be of the same design along all portions of the trail. Mile markers will be simplified. Signs technology will allow users to scan the sign with their smart phones to obtain a map, trail markers, etc. Each city on the trail will have a designated color band on the top of their signs to better identify location.

Mr. Fred Bunn, Director, Parks and Recreation, City of Grand Rapids – 13-024, Waterfront Park Development

Mr. Fred Bunn, Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Grand Rapids, made a PowerPoint presentation in support of the Waterfront Park Development project (13-024). The park property (17.6 acres) was purchased by the city in 1992 with the assistance of a MNRTF grant. A wetland determination study and botanical survey has been done on the property. The city hosted seven community forum meetings to gather input from residents and stakeholders.

In 2008, the city received a grant from the MNRTF for phase I development of the park and the project was completed in the late fall of 2010. The city is requesting MNRTF funds for phase II development in the amount of \$300,000 with a general fund match of \$425,100. This would involve development of 11.2 acres of the park.

According to the botanical survey performed, the flora was calculated at 1.4 on a scale of 0-10. Fourteen out of 26 identified species in the woodland area were classified as non-native. There are many varieties of plant species on the property.

Scope items for phase II development of the park would include site preparation and grading, accessible walkways, interpretive node, boardwalks and abutments, overlook decks, site landscape improvements, outdoor class room, site amenities, natural habitat restoration and wetland creation.

Project highlights include: planting over 400 new trees; 140 new shrubs; 2.5 acres of restored woodlands; add 1.5 acres of wetlands; interpretive node with wetland, ecology and waterfowl information; and 1.5 acres of upland meadow. Phase I and II development will have a direct link to the 4.3-mile Reeds Lake Trail.

Mr. Charters asked what the city was going to do about the invasive species on the property. Mr. Bunn responded that some are difficult to eradicate, but the city has been working with Calvin College and also utilizing beetles on site.

Mr. Canale asked if the city has calculated the impact carbon footprints of the project would be with the 400 trees and plantings. He feels we should discuss this issue in future projects. Statewide this could be significant over time.

Mr. David Kieft, Jr., Supervisor, Muskegon Charter Township; Ms. Erin Kuhn, Program Manager, West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission; and Ms. Kim Arter, Secretary, Fred Meijer Berry Junction Trail Commission – 13-077, Fred Meijer Berry Junction Trail Development

Mr. David Kieft, Supervisor of Muskegon Charter Township, and Ms. Erin Kuhn, Program Manager of the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission, made a PowerPoint presentation in support of the Fred Meijer Berry Junction Trail Development project (13-077). This is the final phase of the trail.

Ms. Kuhn stated that the Fred Meijer Berry Junction Trail Commission was formed in 2003, along with several communities within Muskegon County – Laketon Township, Muskegon Township, Fruitland Township, Dalton Township, City of North Muskegon and City of Whitehall (Phase I). This portion of the trail project completes 4.6 miles of the final phase of the trail. It will be the final connection between the Hart-Montague Trail and the Musketawa Trail.

The total project cost is over \$2 million. The township is requesting \$300,000 from the MNRTF. The balance of the project costs would be: \$1.6 million from Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) Transportation Enhancement Fund (application has been submitted); and \$115,400 local match.

Along with the previously mentioned local units of government, other partners of the trail project include Muskegon County, West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission, West Michigan Trails and Greenways Coalition and Muskegon County Road Commission.

Ms. Kuhn outlined the route and regional areas of the trail via PowerPoint.

Director Creagh asked if MDOT is receptive to providing Transportation Enhancement Funds. Ms. Kuhn said they have been working with Mike Smith of MDOT and are expecting to hear very soon if funding will be approved. All issues have been addressed, and MDOT has been very positive.

Mr. Joel Mikkelsen and Mr. Conley Bowling, Oceana County; and Mr. Matt Lincoln, Parks and Recreation Division, DNR – 13-026, Hart-Montague Trail State Park Reconstruction of Segment B

Mr. Joel Mikkelsen and Mr. Conley Bowling from Oceana County made a presentation in support of the Hart-Montague Trail State Park Reconstruction of Segment B project (13-026).

Mr. Bowling stated that the Hart-Montague State Park Trail was 22 miles of abandoned railroad right-of-way from the City of Montague in Muskegon County to the City of Hart in Oceana County. It was one of the first state park rail-trail projects in Michigan (in the 1980's). Mr. Bill Field of Shelby bought the corridor from the railroad and donated it to the State of Michigan.



Now after 25 years of use it is in need of reconstruction and improvement to widen the rail-trail to 10 feet and open up the shoulders.

The trail is used by tens of thousands of people per year – snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, bicycling and hikers. There is use year-round. A number of restaurants and other businesses are located along the trail, as well as restrooms.

The path from Montague to Hart has cracks almost every 20 to 30 feet (2-3 inches wide) for over 20 miles with grass growing up through the cracks.

Mr. Mikkelsen continued by providing photographs of the current condition of the trail. He mows and maintains the trail and gets a lot of comments from users as to when the trail is going to be repaved.

Mr. Matt Lincoln further added that the trail is becoming a safety issue as it is no longer up to current standards due to the 8-foot width.

Mr. Bowling continued by stating that 25 years ago he made a presentation to the MNRTF Board for this trail. One thing that happened was that the Oceana County Board of Commissioners did not accept the grant. As a result, the trail was transferred from Oceana County to the City of Hart. This time, the Oceana County Parks Commission was instructed by the County Board of Commissioners to apply for the grant.

Mr. Charters wondered why DNR's Parks and Recreation Division are not taking care of the repaving since it is a state park. Mr. Lincoln responded that Oceana County is applying for half of the trail (11.2 miles). MDOT funds as well as other state funds will also be used (Park Endowment Fund, Recreation Passport, Recreation Trails Program, etc.).

Mr. Charters wondered if snowmobile use was the problem for the trail's deterioration. Mr. Mikkelsen responded that snowmobile use is part of the problem.

Mr. Charters asked Director Creagh since the snowmobile program gets some gas tax money, has there ever been a discussion about some of this money going towards trail maintenance. Director Creagh responded that this topic is in its initial phase of conversation as to maintenance, renovation, longevity of trails, etc.

Mr. Mark A. Brochu, Director of Parks and Recreation, St. Clair County – 13-106, North Channel Waterfront Acquisition

Mr. Mark A. Brochu, Director of Parks and Recreation for St. Clair County, made a PowerPoint presentation in support of the North Channel Waterfront Acquisition project (13-106). On behalf of the residents of St. Clair County, he thanked the Board for providing five acquisition grants to the county over the past several years. The last acquisition grant – Blue Water River Walk Expansion – was awarded in 2011. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation provided the

county with a \$1 million grant to build a wetland on the parcel, and the county has partnered with the Community Foundation, who provided a \$200,000 grant to pave the trail. Within two years the parcel will be acquired and fully developed.

The North Channel Waterfront Acquisition consists of three parcels (9.4 acres), with almost 360 feet of shoreline on the North Channel of the St. Clair River. The north boundary line is on M-29 (Pointe Tremble Drive) and adjacent to the DNR's North Channel boating access site. On the east side is adjacent to the Algonac Boat Harbor. The property includes a house, garage and shed which will be developed for use with the property. The property is across from Harsens Island (southern end of the county). The county is the northeast frontier of the SEMCOG urban regions. There are many visitors via I-94.

The county is asking for a \$200,000 acquisition from the MNRTF, which will be matched with \$100,000 from local funds. The county parks and recreation department is fully funded by a special millage.

The acquisition does not include the Algonac Boat Harbor parcel. It will be acquired with county's funds.

Some of the scope items that are being proposed for the property will need to go through the Department of Environmental Quality permitting process (swimming beach, shore fishing decks, and shoreline naturalization and pond). Other proposed development includes ADA accessible canoe and kayak launch, ADA walkways throughout the property, restrooms/office/maintenance storage in the existing house and garage, two picnic shelters, playground and paved parking lot.

The nearest beach to this property is nine miles to the north (Marine City) and 13 miles to the west (New Baltimore). In addition, the property would provide direct access to the Russell Island Loop Blueway. Also, it is across the North Channel from the Crispin Drain Blueway through Harsens Island. It also connects walkways with the North Channel BAS and is a trailhead for the Bridge to Bay Trail along M-29.

Chairperson Cummings asked how the Algonac Boat Harbor parcel impacts the acquisition application. Mr. Brochu responded that the owner is willing to proceed with the sale as soon as the county learns that the MNRTF funding has been approved. Chairperson Cummings asked if the owner was going to be opportunistic. Mr. Brochu responded in the conversations he has had with the owner, no.

## V. OLD BUSINESS.

None.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS.

### Update on MNRTF Staff Activities – Mr. Jon Mayes, Unit Manager, Recreation Grants, Grants Management, DNR

Mr. Jon Mayes, Unit Manager, Recreation Grants, Grants Management, DNR, advised the Board that there have been a series of legislative meetings throughout the state and one of the topics for discussion is the future of the MNRTF. Mr. DeBrabander has been attending all of these meetings.

Staff has completed their review and scoring of 142 MNRTF applications for consideration in the 2013 grant cycle. Grant Coordinators and Managers then meet as a group over several days to go over all scores and make adjustments, if necessary. Applicants are then mailed their preliminary score evaluation where they have the opportunity to provide supplemental information to improve their project score. After the deadline for submittal of supplemental information, the Grant Coordinators and Managers again meet to final score the applications (late October and early November).

### TF11-107, Paint Creek Trail/Polly Ann Trail South Connector Development, Oakland Charter Township – **PROJECT WITHDRAWAL**

### TF12-031, Village Green Acquisition, City of Hudsonville – **PROJECT WITHDRAWAL**

### TF12-041, Mill Point Park Expansion, Village of Spring Lake – **PROJECT WITHDRAWAL**

**MOVED BY MR. CHARTERS, SUPPORTED BY DIRECTOR CREAGH, TO ACCEPT THE WITHDRAWALS OF TF12-041, MILL POINT PARK EXPANSION, VILLAGE OF SPRING LAKE; TF11-107, PAINT CREEK TRAIL/POLLY ANN TRAIL SOUTH CONNECTOR DEVELOPMENT, OAKLAND CHARTER TOWNSHIP; AND TF12-031, VILLAGE GREEN ACQUISITION, CITY OF HUDSONVILLE. PASSED WITHOUT DISSENTING VOTE.**

Mr. Mayes also advised the Board that the grant application from Emmet County (13-083) was being withdrawn, as the owner has opted to sell the property to a private party.

## VII. STATUS REPORTS.

### DNR Real Estate Report – State Acquisitions

Mr. Steve Sutton, Manager, Real Estate Services Section, Finance and Operations Division, DNR, outlined the DNR Real Estate report.

Since the last Board meeting the Eagle Lake Public Access parcel in Cass County, to be funded under the MNRTF, has been to the Natural Resources Commission for approval. This would provide boating access to Eagle Lake and channels access to nearby lakes.

Mr. Sutton advised the Board that he has been working with DNR divisions and Grants Management staff to get the “eco-regions” (lump sum) monies spent. The Board will get a report on the DNR’s land management strategy in October. In September, the DNR will have encumbered about \$2 million in eco-region funds to acquire approximately 730 acres of inholdings and game areas in southwest and southeast Michigan.

#### Completed MNRTF Projects Report

No discussion.

#### MNRTF Financial Report

The report was outlined earlier. Mr. Charters had a question about the operating costs and wondered if these were up from last year. Mr. Frick responded that he did not think so, but possibly payment in-lieu of taxes is higher. Also, there may be more costs going for appraisals (Real Estate Services Section). The Grants Management database was funded last year.

Director Creagh asked that prior years’ expenditures be identified on the financial report. Chairperson Cummings agreed.

#### MNRTF Land Consolidation and Line Item Department Projects

No discussion.

### VIII. OTHER MATTERS AS ARE PROPERLY BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD.

Director Creagh stated that the DNR can still use some help from MNRTF Board members on the legislative hearings that are being conducted around the state. There seems to be some misinformation relative to the Upper Peninsula and MNRTF and access to land. There is still the perception that the MNRTF is buying a lot of land in the Upper Peninsula.

The Iron Ore Heritage Trail in the Upper Peninsula (funded with assistance of MNRTF) had their ribbon-cutting recently and received accolades from the community.

He encouraged audience members to “correct the record as to MNRTF information” when they run into comments made.

Director Creagh thanked Mr. Canale for his attendance at ribbon-cutting ceremonies in the Upper Peninsula earlier this month. Governor Snyder and Director Creagh were also in attendance at ribbon-cuttings.

DNR staff will become more involved with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's ten regions, in particular, Grants staff with various grant programs offered.

DNR will be aggressive in implementing the land strategy plan. He publicly thanked Mr. Sutton and his staff for their involvement.

At this point, Mr. John Greenslit, Parks and Recreation Director for Eaton County, made some comments. He attended the legislative hearing that was held in Grand Rapids and he spent his limited time addressing the misconceptions. He feels the Board's new investment policy will have to be very carefully delivered to a legislative process. Many of the discussions that came up in Grand Rapids dealt with tampering with a variety of things that were out of the Legislature's jurisdiction.

Mr. Greenslit further stated that Mr. Steve DeBrabander is an excellent representative for the Board in the field and acts as a resource. The Grand Rapids hearing was well attended by the West Michigan representatives. He further stated that he and others will continue to promote the MNRTF program and clear up misconceptions/misstatements.

Mr. Greenslit also stated that Director Creagh and other DNR staff met with him and Eaton County officials recently, and the meeting was greatly appreciated.

Chairperson Cummings pointed out former DNR Director Rodney Stokes, who was seated in the audience.

## IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The next meeting of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Board is scheduled for 9:00 AM, Wednesday, October 23, 2013, Lansing Community College West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone, Lansing, Michigan.

X. ADJOURNMENT.

**MOVED BY MR. CHARTERS, SUPPORTED BY MR. CANALE, TO  
ADJOURN THE MEETING. PASSED WITHOUT DISSENTING VOTE.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM.

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Sam Cummings, Chairperson  
Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund  
Board of Trustees

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Steven J. DeBrabander, Manager  
Grants Management

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DATE